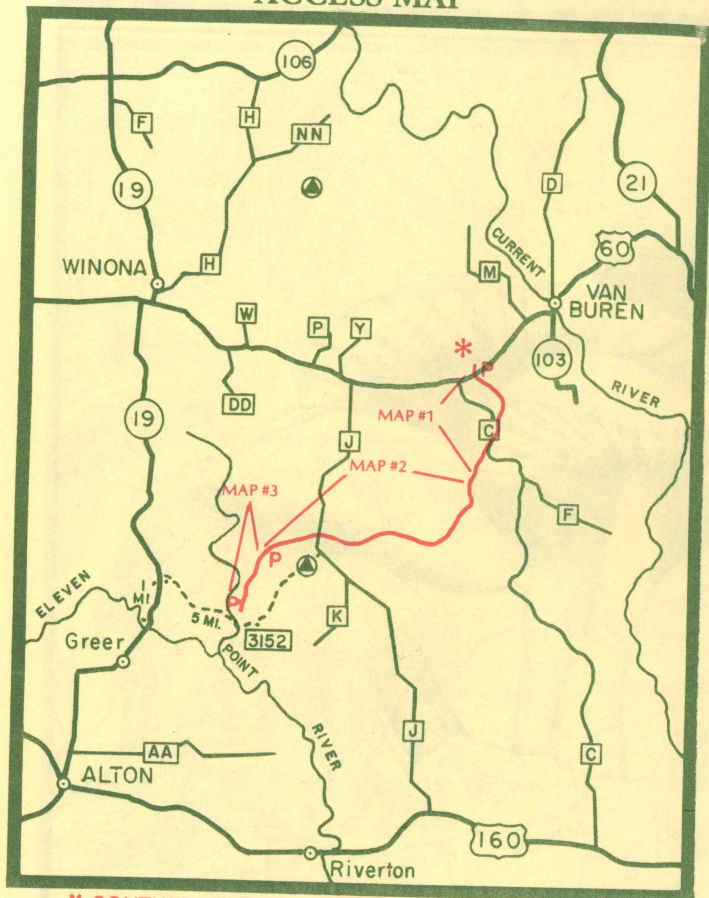


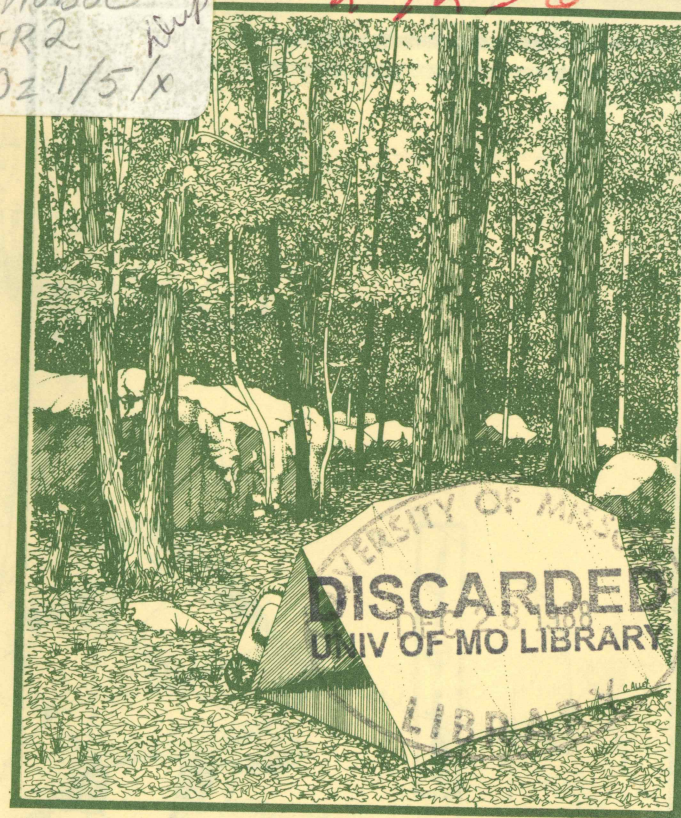
ACCESS MAP



* SOUTHERN TERMINUS OF THE CURRENT RIVER SECTION
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THE OZARK TRAIL
Between the Rivers Section

Between the Rivers Section

The Between the Rivers Section of the Ozark Trail was completed in the fall of 1983. The entire section is located on public land which lies between the Current River and the Eleven Point River and is part of the Mark Twain National Forest, administered by the United States Department of Agriculture.

The Between the Rivers Section of the Ozark Trail covers approximately 30 miles. It was designed to accommodate both **foot and equestrian** traffic. The northern entry point to this section is on Highway 60 approximately 3.5 miles west of Van Buren in Carter County. From that point, the trail leads southwest to Forest Service Road #3152 near Hurricane Creek in Orgeon County. Trailhead parking is provided for users at Highway 60 and at Sinking Creek Lookout Tower approximately one mile west of Highway J. Limited roadside parking is possible at the southern end of the trail on FS #3152. The nearest improved campsites are located at Big Spring, which is managed by the National Park Service, and at Watercress Spring Recreation Area, Greer Crossing Recreation Area, and McCormack Lake Recreation Area, which are managed by the Forest Service, USDA.


From Highway 60, the trail leads generally south for the first 13 miles winding through numerous small tributaries which feed the Current River, including Wildhorse Hollow, Chilton Creek, Devil's Run, and Big Barren Creek. From Big Barren Creek, the trail heads west along the north prong of Cedar Bluff Creek. The trail climbs gently out of Cedar Bluff Creek drainage and crosses a major ridge that divides the Current River watershed and the Eleven Point River watershed. The last eight and one-half miles of trail proceed generally southwest following Gold Mine Hollow, the ridge above Kelly Hollow, and Fox Hollow before ending on Forest Service Road #3152 above Hurricane Creek.

This section of trail covers terrain that is very typical of most of the Ozarks Region. For those who take the time, it can provide insight into the intricate and often overlooked processes that have carved and shaped the Ozarks.

The Ozark Trail provides a recreational opportunity that can be enjoyed by individuals or families. It can be used for long-distance backpacking, half-hour strolls, day hikes, and weekend trips. It combines clear Ozark streams, dry granite barrens, panoramic mountaintop views, and deep forests that filter the summer sun. The Ozark Trail represents the quest of those who backpack not to go the fastest or the furthest, but to share the experiences of the first who crossed the land.

These are steps you should take to ensure your safety and to preserve the Ozark Trail for those who follow:

- Camp at least 100 feet from the trail, water and scenic areas. Leave your campsite so no one will know you were there.
- Treat all water used for drinking or cooking.
- Use a backpacking stove for cooking and build a fire only if absolutely necessary. Do not build fires on edges of bluffs, on glades, or in caves. If a fire is necessary, clear the area of combustible material. Use only small material that can be broken by hand to burn, make sure you drown the fire before leaving, and scatter or bury the ashes. Do not encircle the fire with rocks.
- Bury all human waste at least 100 feet from the trail, streams, or water impoundments. Pack out everything else you packed in.
- Use caution when crossing streams. At times during high water and floods, stream crossings are impossible to negotiate.
- Enjoy plants in their natural setting. Do not collect plants.
- Be considerate of others; respect the rights of private landowners and remember that solitude is also a resource to be protected.

The official Ozark Trail marker is a green  on a white rectangle. Two tilted markers placed one above the other warn of an abrupt turn in the trail in the direction of the tilt. A white 4" x 6" diamond-shaped plastic marker or painted blaze is also used to identify the route. In addition, supplemental markers may be used by each agency or landowner. Be alert, and always carry a map or compass.

The development of the Ozark Trail is an ambitious project that has been undertaken by the members of the Ozark Trail Council, which includes state and federal land-managing agencies, trail user groups, and landowners. The trail is envisioned someday to extend from St. Louis through the scenic Ozarks to the Arkansas border, where it will connect with the Ozark Highlands Trail and proceed west to the Arkansas-Oklahoma border. If you would like to learn more about the Ozark Trail or if you have comments concerning the trail, write the Ozark Trail Coordinator, c/o Missouri Department of Natural Resources, Division of Parks and Historic Preservation, P.O. Box 176, Jefferson City, Missouri 65102 (Phone 314-751-2479).

The Ozark Trail Council has officially adopted the Between the Rivers Section as a component of the Ozark Trail and has approved the information contained in this brochure.

